

and the laying out of Wentworth. In 1797 an act was passed suspending operations on the Wentworth courthouse. In 1798 commisisoners were named to establish Wentworth on land given by Robert Galloway for that purpose. The first court was held at Wentworth in May, 1799. Wentworth is the county seat.<sup>746</sup>

. . . , the said county of Guilford be divided by an east and west line, beginning at Haw river bridge, near James Martins; and that all that part of the late county of Guilford, which lies to the south of said line, shall continue and remain a distinct county by the name of Guilford; and all that other part of the said county of Guilford, which lies north of the said dividing line shall henceforth be erected into a new and distinct county by the name of Rockingham.<sup>747</sup>

## ROWAN

Rowan was formed in 1753 from Anson. It was named in honor of Matthew Rowan who was a prominent leader before the Revolution and who for a short time after the death of Governor Gabriel Johnston was acting governor. It is in the central section of the State and is bounded by Davidson, Stanly, Cabarrus, Iredell, and Davie counties. Its present area is 517 square miles and its population is 69,206. The county seat was first called Rowan Court House. It has been called Salisbury since about 1755. Salisbury is the county seat.<sup>748</sup>

. . . , That Anson County be divided by a Line, to begin where Anson Line was to cross Earl Granville's Line, and from thence, in a direct Line, North, to the Virginia Line, and that the said County be bounded to the North by the Virginia Line, and to the South by the Southermost Line of Earl Granville's Land: And that the upper part of said County, so laid off and divided be erected into a County and Parish, by the Name of Rowan County, and St. Luke's Parish; and that all the Inhabitants of the Westward of the said Line, and included within the before mentioned Boundaries, shall belong and appertain to Rowan County: . . .<sup>749</sup>

The boundary line between Rowan, Mecklenburg, and Tryon was authorized to be run in 1770.

. . . , to run the Dividing Line between the said County of Rowan, and the Counties of Mecklenburg and Tryon; beginning at Cold Water, where John Patterson's Upper Line crosses the Creek; thence due West until it intersects the Cherokee Indian Line; which said Line, when run by the Commissioners aforesaid, or a Majority of them, shall by them be entered

<sup>746</sup>S. R., XXIV, 745, 798, 989; *Laws*, 1796, Ch. 56; 1797, Ch. 76; 1798, Ch. 76; *Manual*, 1913, p. 783; *Battle*, p. 28.

<sup>747</sup>S. R., XXIV, 745.

<sup>748</sup>C. R., V, 25, 348, 355; S. R., XXIII, 390, 399, 866; XXV, 270; *Manual*, 1913, p. 788; *Battle*, p. 21.

<sup>749</sup>S. R., XXIII, 390.